



FICTION - NON-FICTION - POETRY ART - PHOTOGRAHY

CRESCENT LITERARY SOCIETY | FEBRUARY 2022 WINTER EDITION

MERAKI WINTER 2021

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Dr. A.PEER MOHAMED, VICE-CHANCELLOR

A literary magazine is one of the few places where a reader can find solace. This winter edition of Meraki'21 exemplifies this with its creative, humane and lyrical perspectives on life. The Crescent Literary Society's zeal towards mental and physical well being, their social commitment, and their creative excellence exhibited through print and social media are, indeed, commendable. They have displayed a wonderful panorama of the past, present and the future through their articles, poems, haikus, stories, photography and arts. I am glad to record my appreciation for bringing out such a compendium which guarantees a delightful read for everyone. Best wishes to the entire team!!!

Dr. A. AZAD, REGISTRAR

I want to applaud the members of Crescent Literary Society for their consistent efforts to pave the way to fruitful endeavours, even in the gloomiest of times. Meraki entices every artist to reflect and bring a variety of unspoken ideas to light. It appears to be that while creating a piece, an artist undergoes a unique introspective journey that nurtures and often serves as an eye-opener, shaping them into better people. On the whole, I am optimistic that their journey through their work will add colour to the journey of many others.

Dr. KARTHIKEYAN RAMALINGAM,

DEAN (STUDENT AFFAIRS) & CHIEF PROCTOR (DISCIPLINE)

To achieve one's goals, the right combination of clarity and optimism is essential. Meraki's content paves a path for cultivating students' brains and taking them down the path of self-discovery. I'd want to show my gratitude to the Crescent Literary Society members for their tireless efforts in bringing unsaid words to light and releasing the creativity of budding artists, authors, and photographers. I applaud the Crescent Writers' Guild on this issue of Meraki, and I thank the publishing crew for their perseverance and dedication.

To avoid a rain of problems, think as an Eagle go above the cloud.

DR.P.RATHNA, PROFESSOR (DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH) &

STAFF COORDINATOR (CRESCENT LITERARY SOCIETY)

"Imagination is more important than knowledge. Knowledge is limited. Imagination encircles the world." —Albert Einstein

Crescent Literary Society's periodical magazine, Meraki always guarantees serendipity to the readers. This winter edition 2021 is endowed with many such pleasant and enthralling aspects that instantly strike a chord with the readers. It was indeed overwhelming to go through the mélange of artistic creations of our students, be it the meditative poetry on Seasons (which reminds me of James Thomson's "The Seasons"), cleverly crafted Haikus, innovative puzzles and games, collaboratively composed fiction and captivating arts and photographs. Above all, articles on the theme of 80s offer the readers a fascinating time travel, presenting a comprehensive glimpse on the ever green music of the 80s, fashion, society, economy and technology. These featured articles will definitely be of interest to those who were born before as well as after 80s.

The CLS deserves special appreciation for their dynamic and resourceful activities in the Social Media. These activities and their achievements in various intra and inter collegiate events testify to their unswerving passion towards literary activities and their social commitment. I am glad to record my hearty congratulations and best wishes to all the amazingly gifted and proficiently skilled virtuosos. Kudos to the editorial team for the cordiality implicit throughout the magazine, which will certainly endear it to all the readers.



A note from the **EDITOR**

We are pleased to introduce the Winter Edition of Meraki 2021 to you. This time, we are here to present you with some highlights of the '80s culture and some chosen pieces that touched our hearts - and we hope it will touch yours, too.

2021 had been a ride full of ups and downs, so we decided to cap it off with a bang. The Greed Decade (i.e., the 1980s) was a one-of-a-kind decade and was a gamechanger in every way. There was a significant socio-economic shift due to technological breakthroughs, and artists began to create new platforms for themselves, and so on. All of this urges us to take risks and pursue our wildest aspirations; remember that every second may be a life-changing event, particularly in unforeseen situations like these.

We have tried to cover everything, from music to technology, to day-to-day life in the '80s. There is too much that the 1980s have brought to life; we hope you will enjoy this historical theme with all its nostalgic value. A big thank you to everyone who contributed to capturing the essence of the '80s decade.

We have always wished for this magazine to be like the elder sibling you have always wanted, on whose arms you can rely on and feel at home. We're here to encourage you to try everything and let you know that making mistakes is normal. Don't let the opinions of others hold you back; instead, take a leap and make a splash. Meraki will always be there for you, no matter how many years pass by.

The journey is just as essential as the destination. Try to embrace the climb - relate these beautiful pieces with your life where you're constantly trying to convey meaning and express a feeling. We want you to feel our heart and soul in the work that has been sculpted and handpicked for you. We also desire your presence in these pieces and would love to hear your thoughts. You can send your heartfelt pieces to crescentmeraki@gmail.com, and we will be waiting at the door, ready to welcome you home.

Tasneem Juzer, Editor in Chief - Crescent Literary Society, Biotechnology, Year IV.

A note from the **PRESIDENT**

It is always twists and turns with life, ain't it? One moment you are here, and the next, you are there. Who would have thought I would be writing the President's Note for the Institute's magazine in my final year of study? Not me - I joined Crescent two months after starting our academic program! Now, let's blame it on fate and start living the day, shall we?

To my lovely juniors (my foster kids), I know adapting to college life is a bit exhaustive, but don't let it get the best of you! Irrespective of your discipline and irrespective of who made this decision for you, life has chosen this path for you. By the time you are reading this, you will have completed a semester of your academic programme. So, it is high time you throw away your regrets and kick start your college life by living it to the fullest.

Here are a few tips on what you can do to make your college life an enjoyable experience, and this is from my very own experience:

- Make friends in and out of your department or school of study, for this will help you gain exposure from the other fields of study as well.
- And do not stop your friends list with college-mates include your professors as well! This will prove to be a strong pillar for you, academically and professionally.
- Ahh! Get in good touch with the support staff of the Institute and the bill counters in the canteen. This will ensure you get the best food and facilities in the canteen and Institute.
- Library membership and WiFi password are the two saviors during examination time, so don't miss out on them.
- Join clubs and societies to pursue your interests ranging from dance, music, art and literature. This will be your gateway to bigger stages.
- Last but not least, love yourself before loving anyone else. Do things that make you happy and be proud of who you are. Don't let gossip and rumors defeat you.

With this being said, a friendly (or take it as a foster parent's) advice, TAKE GOOD CARE OF YOUR HEALTH. Make sure you eat healthy and stay healthy by avoiding everything harmful to your physical and mental health. Wishing you the very best in your life.

Sujan Ganesh, President - Crescent Literary Society, BBA, LLB (Hons.), Year V

SPRING - A TRIBUTE

Poem by Naqiya Tabassum (2nd year, CSE)

A tribute to the ones I love who brought me spring.

Lost love, standing alone Vast barren land, brewing storms. Drops of water brushing my hair, A smell of sand fills the air. I look at the clouds All in charming silhouettes, Some help without regret while others inflict pain. But in the end all of 'em Pass by like the wind, and I barely see them. They never come back! Yet with every passing cloud, The storm seems to subside. I cry as they materialize, Permeate with Wisteria vines. To those whom I love Who had to depart Be it friends or love or flesh That had to go apart. You brought spring With bygone love, I adored you. But you left a treasure, A person with pleasure.



Winter: A fresh perspective

Poem by Faheema Jaffarin (2nd year, B A - English, Hons.)

The sky is laughing hysterically Shining in humour At my freezing body on a summer day I call it my false winter. It's not snow but the tears that run down my cheeks It's not a snowman that I make nor a Christmas cake that I should bake But rather art and poetry That came out of this misery It's not the warm cottage I reside But the nagging voice that screams inside A happy looking peculiar girl Wearing sweaters and leathers If mocked at once again She will just call it her false winter.

Fall - A Renaissance

Poem by Anna Catherine (2nd year, BA - English, Hons.)

Fall, a perfect season to Pick up a fallen interest from the hollowness Of eternity. It has not hit bottom, It is still on its way to it's demise. Fall, a perfect time To revive and renew My almost fallen interest. Reading; I hope I still get the wholesome feel when I finish a book. The catharsis of reading. Insightfully sinking in The author's view about this world Through a bell jar. Using Thackeray as a reference Simple words turned to quotes. Fall, a perfect season To regain this beautiful tension Between me and reading.



Summer: Finding Hope

Poem by Kenisha Christina (2nd year, B Arch.)

Blue skies slowly heated to a crimson hue; As the days turn humid from sunrise, I drown in fields of lemons and oranges Slender slices with ice melt on my lips Longing to sate this unquenched thirst. I salivate for a glimpse of rainy showers, My hope dwindles as the scorch begins. The sun tickles my neck placing red hickeys As sweat traces every pore in my body. I almost faint at being a victim to this flaming heat,

Tossed in the furnace of sunlight. Summer sticks to me like a second skin, Leaving me parched.

Like the desert, I'm empty and grey With shades of weary I display.

HAIKUS

Sunset

Those shimmering eyes , Looking at setting twilight , — Awaits vivid dawns .

Fathima Ismail , 2nd year CSI

Starry Nights and Starry Eyes -

Anna Catherine , 2nd year B A (English

Crime

Who do I blame - their Red mouths, or my blood-soaked hands

> For my broken dream? Namratha R.D., 2nd year CSE

Come Back Alive

Shout even louder ; Where should you have been standing ? Have you lost yourself ?

Shifana , 1st year Biotech

Elysian

In an unknown place , A stranger's angelic smile - Sent sorrows to hell .

lasneem Juzer , 4th year Biotech

Ombre

Twirling through pastures , Feet red and weak ; ruthless dusks Brazened , bloomed yellow .

Anjana Badrinath , 4th year ECE

CLS socials

By Abishek Shankar, Public Relations Officer - Crescent Literary Society, 3rd year, EEE.

With the pandemic bringing offline events to a halt, many talents of CLS felt the need for an outlet to express themselves authentically.

Enter Social media- diverse in its apps and people you find on it. From having only our Instagram account as our outlet to the wider world, we have grown, expanding in other platforms to produce content that is sure to tickle your literary bones.

Winter is coming, and we have the content necessary to warm your hearts and minds.

Instagram

The Club's proverbial dip into the social media sea, our Instagram page has developed to include a wider range of content, as we have come to see the potential of social media to do much more than connect people. Here, you can find weekly news updates to keep you on par with the news, quizzes that test your trivia knowledge, and reels to keep you hooked.



Youtube

A path less travelled by literary societies, YouTube has been an excellent platform for our longform content. The channel has flourished to cater to nearly 400 subscribers and a variety of shows under its belt. Three of those are detailed below:

Ichor

Ever feel the need for that warm shot of poetry to beat the chills? Ichor is the show for you. Enjoy the short but blissful poems written by the artistic poets of CLS, with a new poem out before you finish re-reading the Rime of the Ancient Mariner. Click on the image to watch our first episode of Ichor.



Quiz Me Not



Find yourself often stuck in bed, scrolling through YouTube, and watching mind-numbing content? Tune into Quiz Me Not, the show that is sure to get your neurons scrambling to find the answer before the participants can. Click on the image to watch our first Quiz Me Not episode.

The Butterfly Effect

Got an eye for subtlety? Then "The Butterfly Effect" is the show for you. Enjoy unassuming short stories with a subtle but profound twist! Click on the image to watch our first story from The Butterfly Effect.

" SHIVER "

BY SAMYUKTHA

Writers, Inc.

They say a picture is worth a thousand words, but worthy words coined by members of CLS will surely hit home. Find our writers engage you with words on topics ranging from reservations and beauty standards, to the purpose of life and toxic gaming. Click on the image to read more.



Obverse

A coin has two sides and so does a story. Obverse explores the untold and unexplored side of a story and throws light on facts untaught and tales untold. Click on the image to read more.



THE ANNUAL VISITOR OF BLACK

Conceptualized and written by various members of Crescent Literary Society. Edited by Saniya Mirza, Musab Humzah Syed, and Fathima Ismail.

Stella, dressed in her blazer, was all set to start her mundane schedule for the day. She sipped her coffee as Jake climbed down the stairs. He hugged her and whispered, "I will be back soon, Mom". A bead of sweat trickled down her forehead as she saw him drive away in his car. "Please keep him safe, God", she earnestly whispered.

For years, she had managed to keep Jake out of his father's world, but fate had different plans. Three nights ago, her son had stumbled across a box full of old letters that were hidden away in the cellar. She had always wanted to throw them out, but sentiments had gotten the better of her



Over the last 18 years, Jake and Stella lived a comfortable life from paycheck to paycheck. But time and again, poverty was their uninvited guest and luxury was their known stranger. That box of letters was their door to luxury and it bore witness to their claim of inheritance in the Miglin family. Joe Miglin, the single heir to the Miglin family, had a secret love affair with Stella, which his parents soon discovered. The box had letters exchanged between the two describing the depths of their affection, along with an expired cheque for \$10,000- her handout to leave Joe and stay out of his life; another love story killed by society.

Not wanting to open all the letters in the musty cellar, Jake had decided to read them near the lake with the old tree. The rays of orange and yellow gently kissed the top of the tree as the car rolled over the dirt and came to a halt at the end of the road. The old tree had been a childhood spot for him- one of the vague memories he had of his father were linked to picnics by this lake. It was the same spot where his parents' romance once bloomed. Going through the letters, he envisioned his parents going against the world to be together, only for the illusion to be shattered upon seeing the cheque.

As he sat under that tree, thinking about his unlived life, his phone started buzzing. The screen flashed as the caller ID displayed 'Spam'. Callously, he picked up and grunted, only to hear that he was being summoned to the Miglin's mansion immediately. Shocked at the timing of events, he decided to take a plunge at it. He went to his car and started driving.

The Miglin Mansion was as humongous as you would expect the country's second-richest family to live in. A strange mixture of jealousy and contempt filled in Jake's heart against the people who deprived him and his mother of the joys this world could offer them. On getting past the security, he decided to venture around the compound and somehow ended up near an oddly placed wall that seemed to have been there on purpose.

Inspecting the wall with his hand, he felt a loose brick and decided to push it. The gurgling of machinery was faint but audible as the bricks shifted to reveal an entrance to a staircase that could only have led downwards.

He crept along the dimly lit passage and followed the stairs downwards to a dungeon. A single cell lay to the side and a bloody table in front of it. Pliers and knives were laid out on the table to the side. Another door led elsewhere but Jake walked over to the cell curious to know who was being held there. He looked into the cell to find a bloodied man asleep. He was covered in rags and seemed to be hanging by a thread. He looked hard, trying to identify the man. He gasped as he noticed the golden dagger-like birthmark on his arm. He realized that his father, Joe Miglin was lying in that mangled state. Horrified, he decided to go back up and call the police, but as he started to back away, a swift blow from behind knocked him out.

Jake woke up strapped to the table he had seen earlier. The air was heavy and tainted with the smell of nicotine. He moved his head to look around. A tall black-haired woman was sitting on a chair beside him. She looked at Jake and saw that he was awake.

"Well, brother, so nice of you to finally stop by," the woman said. "Oh, by the way, I'm your half-sister- Anastasia. A pleasure to finally welcome you home, " she smirked. "Before you start with your questions. Let me explain the situation, " Anastasia said. "I called you here to bring an end to this feud between our families".

"I'm never giving you the money!", Jake yelled.

She took a deep puff of her cigarette and sighed. "If you would allow me to explain-- I don't want the money. What I really want is freedom." Jake looked confused as this didn't make sense to him. "Freedom is one thing I've been denied my entire life and I refuse to be chained to this house and its legacy anymore. But I need money to get that. And that is where you come in." Anastasia removed the restraints and explained the deal to Jake.

"I want freedom, and you want money so let's make a deal. You become the heir of the family and handle all their businesses. No one knows about you, and as far as the public is concerned, they don't know anything about me either. To them, the heir could be either of us. I get half the profits every month, and the rest is yours." Jake heard this out and mulled it over. He could finally escape poverty and achieve something in life. "Well, a deal like this has to have a catch", he replied cautiously.

Anastasia replied, "Well, yes, but it's quite a small catch. You have to take care of our lovely father here."

"Take care? Well, a few weeks of rest, and he'll be fine. What do I even have to take care of?"

"Well, sweet daddy here isn't as understanding as you, brother. He wants me to be the heir. He raised me for that very purpose. I, on the other hand, want to do anything but that. So, to keep his silence, I will cripple him and leave him in your care so that he doesn't squeal his tongue to anyone, "Anastasia replied casually.

The day's events were a lot to take in, but his resentment and greed took precedence in the matter. Keeping the years of struggle in mind, Jake decided that this was just a small price to pay and agreed to the deal. Anastasia crippled her father in return for her freedom and moved away from town. From the day he met Anastasia, Jake took over as the heir to the Miglin family, and no one was any the wiser as to the arrangement between the heir and the annual visitor with long black hair.





S Priyadharshni , 3rd year CSE



Varsha , 4th year BBA



Pradeepa A , Research Scholar Department of Mathematics and Actuarial Sciences



Dinesh , 4th year Civil



Indhu , 4th year BBA



Ronisha S , 2nd year Biotech

ACROSS

3. The film Bohemian Rhapsody depicted the story of which rock band?

5. Name the band fronted by the singer Sting.

7. Who released a song called Buffalo

Stance?

8. Who sang 'Girls Just Want To Have Fun'?

DOWN

80's Pop : Crossword

1. Bros' debut album?

2. Madonna's first number-one single in the UK?

4. Three members of Duran Duran all share the same surname.

5. Who scored a chart-topper in 1988 with 'I Think We're Alone Now'?

6. Which all-girl group had a Manic Monday?

MATRIX - SOLVE THE WORDS

RULES:

3

one letter can be moved only once (either horizontally or vertically).

HINT : Move R12 to R11 -> TASK

Answers on page 30

Ideated by Fadhl ur Rahman & Mohamed Aman 3rd year ECE



THE SOUND OF THE 1805

By Saniya Mirza (3rd year, ECE)

The 1980s, without a doubt, shaped the music industry in such a profound way that its ripples are felt to this day. Play this game with yourself, and check how many days you can go without hearing an 80s reference in your favourite shows! Wouldn't last very long, I bet. To this day, the artists of their time are remembered and honoured for their impact on the industry. Their era was shaped by singers who topped the charts for weeks, only to be beaten by another absolute banger.

Michael Jackson ruled the 80s as the first African-American person to have his music in heavy rotation, on platforms like MTV. On the pop and R&B side, this decade saw the rise of big names like Madonna, Prince, Lionel Richie, Whitney Houston, Bruce Springsteen, and Diana Ross.

Several rock bands and artists also gained major popularity, including Queen, U2, Bon Jovi, Led Zeppelin, and The Rolling Stones. However, in the 80s, the most significant cultural change was the transition towards urban hip-hop and electronic instruments, both of which are widely popular even now, after 40 years.

While the artists mentioned above were capturing the limelight, many more around the globe were making their marks in post-punk, goth rock, and country genres, alongside the rising hip-hop culture.

An effort to revisit the 80s through Meraki - We asked the club members to recommend their favorite songs from this explosive era, and we compiled a playlist for our readers. Take a peek at some of their suggestions on the next page.







These songs have been personally picked for publication by the members of Crescent Literary Society. To let you feel what they feel, we've specially curated this playlist for our avid readers. Click the playlist cover or scan the QR code below to check out the whole playlist.





1980-1989: A TECHNOLOGICAL RETROSPECTIVE

By Vikram Venkat (3rd year, EEE)

The year right now is 1980; take a walk with me.

As with any other decade, the first five months are relatively uneventful in science and technological advancements. However, the world had ended the previous decade on a high note - at the very end of 1979, the World Health Organization had certified the global eradication of smallpox, thanks to the discovery and successful administration of the smallpox vaccine - no thanks to you, antivaccination leagues.

However, May 1980 would become the month when the decade's technological revolution would begin. The first step in these unforeseeable, gamechanging years of technological advancements would also be the world's first survival-horror game - Pac-Man. Next, Atari Corporation would follow suit with the introduction of Space Invaders for the Atari 2600 - a move that would make video game consoles a household must-have.



In June, the Conseil Européen pour la Recherche Nucléaire (CERN) and Tim Berners-Lee would begin working on ENQUIRE - the first stepping stone that would lead to the creation of the World Wide Web in a decade. And in July, IBM would invite Bill Gates to develop the world's first ROM BIOS - an operating system for their new line of IBM Personal Computers. Within a single year, several groups of people asynchronously worked towards an inevitable innovation - not quantum computing or advanced medical simulation, but the multiplayer PC gaming experience.

As with the first five months of the year, the final five months would roll along in a haze of technological lethargy.

Standing at the threshold of 1981, we can already sense the rise in medical and astronomical accomplishments - alongside technological ones, of course. The year's productivity begins a little earlier than last, with April seeing the unveiling of the world's first portable computer, the Osborne 1 (no references to Spider-Man; stop it.). The previous month would see the unveiling of the year's most commercially successful British home computer, the ZX81.

Oh, and the first Space Shuttle is launched - no big deal. A few months later, the first microsatellite would be launched as well. The medical community would catch up during the middle of the year with two large successes - the first open fetal surgery in humans, and the first heart-lung transplant.

The year's peak would arrive in July, with the release of Nintendo's Donkey Kong - featuring the first appearance of Mario. This would happen two whole days after the first successful electric aircraft flight, the Solar Challenger.

Now entering: 1982. The world feels much more energetic, with the first significant breakthrough happening in January - the Commodore 64 is launched and would proceed to outsell every other PC model to date! The end of January would also witness the world's first successful computer virus - the Elk Cloner; written by a 15-year old, it was programmed to infect Apple II computers via floppy disk.

Apple would take this personally and base their 21st-century line of products around ecosystemic security, although I would not quote me on that.

ELK CLONER: THE PROGRAM WITH A PERSONALITY IT WILL GET ON ALL YOUR DISKS IT WILL INFILTRATE YOUR CHIPS YES, IT'S CLONER! IT WILL STICK TO YOU LIKE GLUE IT WILL MODIFY RAM TOO SEND IN THE CLONER!

Unlike the previous years, this year would begin with a bang and end on a whimper. The astronomy community piqued the globe's attention with two beautiful celestial sightings - a nine-planet syzygy in March and Halley's Comet in October. The film industry releases Tron in July - mediocre cinema, but the exclusive use of animation technology would keep it in the records.

What's more feeble than a whimper?

January 1, 1983 - The Internet is here, baby! 1971's ARPANET adopts the Internet protocol and created the operational Internet as we know it today.

1983 is densely packed with exciting technological advancements - The GNU Project is announced based on the proprietary operating system, Unix. This would be the basis for the world's first opensource operating system, Linux (1991). Development operations for GNU would begin only the following year, however.

Multi-Tool Word, a word processing software, is released at the very end of October. However, the tool's name would soon become insignificant as it would proceed to become the well-beloved tool, Microsoft Word.

A little bit of trivia for music heads - the specifications for a Musical instrument Digital Interface, or MIDI, would be published in the month of August; two years after its initial devisement. 1984. A pretty boring year for science and technology; the world takes a quick nap, of sorts.

Two astronauts make an untethered spacewalk pretty exciting activity to do, not so exciting to read about. Tetris would be launched in Russia, and would continue to be one among the most frustrating games to play. As a homage to the Orwellian vision presented in his book, Apple launches its first line of Macintosh computers - a part of the technological world closed off within an exclusive ecosystem, giving up control in exchange for trust-based privacy features.

-----Halfway Alert. This line is your reminder to drink water.----

The first day of 1985 would be engraved in Britain's history as the day their first phone call was made. Within the span of two months, the world's first commercial SLR camera would be released. This would soon be followed by the world's first toplevel Internet domain name registration, symbolics.com; it is operational to this date. The British would also discover the ozone hole, which has played a key role in cutting back on global pollution. Remember the ozone hole?

Buckminsterfullerene (C60) is prepared in the US. Remember Buckminsterfullerene?

Remember how I mentioned 1982 ended in a whimper? Well, 1985 would end with a bang as the month of November would witness the global launch of Microsoft Windows - the rest, as they say, is history.

1986 is easy. Remember the Chernobyl disaster? Remember how the Challenger explodes and kills all seven onboard astronauts? The world's first MS-DOS-based PC virus began to spread; it was named "Brian". Remember MS-DOS? Remember the world's first laptop, IBM's PC Convertible? 3D printing and Pixar are founded within months of each other. Remember Pixar?

The Voyager 2 space probe encounters Uranus. Remember Uranus?

Remember 1987? I don't.



1988 is here, and so is the world's first Internet connection. Sweden is online. The USA is online. The Netherlands is online. The NeXT workstation computer is released - I wonder if it went online. A year after the Challenger disaster, NASA's Space Shuttle program is online. The world's first chat protocol is online. A Brief History of Time by Stephen Hawking and Photoshop are both released - and they are online now, too! Global warming is online. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change is online. Several people go online, and several more go offline.





The space shuttle Discovery lifts off its launchpad at the Kennedy Space Center in September of 1988. This was the first shuttle launch since the Challenger disaster in 1986.

Finally, we get to 1989. Unlike 1980, this year does not have five months of lethargy bookending the year - we have twelve months of ... oblivion. We sit and watch the Earth's CO2 levels plummet upwards as we discover an increasing number of celestial bodies. We look far into what could be, yet let what will inevitably be slip away from our hands. We let time lead us, as we struggle to fathom the moulding of what the future holds.

1990. We get a photograph of Earth as seen from three-and-a-half billion miles away. The Hubble Space Telescope is put into orbit. Windows 3 and Adobe Photoshop are launched. The first web page is written. Global economic activity slows down across the board. Several economic shocks due to unprecedented political reforms alter the state of the global market. Recessions deepen in industrialized countries. It was one of the first years when global economic output fell short of population growth. Very soon, the Y2K panic would hit the economy.



April 1990 - Hubble Space Telescope Launched



Pale Blue Dot is a photograph of planet Earth taken on February 14, 1990, by the Voyager 1 space probe from a record distance of about 6 billion kilometers (3.7 billion miles)

But, do not fear; everything would soon be resolved and brought under control. Why? Because the world's first Pokémon game is under development.





The '80s feel not so long ago when counting through the years, but the world has travelled a long way, during and since.

This decade saw a great revolution in a variety of fields like medicine, entertainment, technology, law, etc. Men and women with weird(mostly exotic) hairstyles and hard rock music concerts are the landmarks that come to my mind. There was a massive transition in how people led their lives, which makes the 1980's a notable decade.

The 1980s was the time when consumerism was at its peak. Everything that started to make life easier was invented, and thousands of malls and supermarkets opened ensuring that these inventions were made available to the people. To make life even easier, television companies came up with the idea of home shopping. So, people began to shop for their necessities and luxuries from the comfort of their homes - all it took was a phone call. From the newly launched Apple II personal computers to cars and trucks, people began to invest in them all; people started to believe in the future of the varieties the market could bring to the spotlight.

As life got easy, people started to focus on having a healthy and fit lifestyle. Exercise became the new pastime for both men and women of the '80s. Gymnasiums and health clubs upgraded to computerized equipment to engage the tech-savvy. The main aim was to improve their bodily appearance, bringing out their toned muscles and curves. The clothing style of this decade was highly influenced by the obsession of the people that attended aerobic classes.

Soon, what was worn in the gymnasium was out in the streets. This fabric was so breathable, shimmery, and skin-hugging that it was used in almost everything like leggings, biker shorts, tank tops, and bodysuits. The streets more or less looked like a discotheque - except for the music.

Speaking of music, the 1980s gave birth to modern rock. With the increased use of technology, digital music production activity also increased. Television channels like MTV held a special place with the people, as they were among the first ones that brought music and videos to the TV. The '80s had a more visual experience to music, from the audio-visuals at home to the fireworks at the live concerts; the 1980s was a significant time in the history of music.

The '80s also got to be 'the big hair decade' with bright colours and flashy clothes being predominant. Global music icons such as Michael Jackson and Madonna influenced 1980s fashion with neon clothing in their MTV videos, from Michael's red leather jackets with massive shoulder pads embellished with plenty of hardware to Madonna's flashy tutu skirts layered over leggings, with a bright floppy bow in her hair and strings of chunky necklaces and bracelets around her neck and wrists. Hair and clothes were a direct reflection of the music people listened to. VJ took root as a feasible job during this decade when MTV needed hosts (or "video jockeys") instead of DJs. Some of these artists are still well-known today - like Madonna, U2, The Police, Prince, Michael Jackson, AC/DC, Elton John, Queen, and many more. The music of this decade still remains to be a favourite of many even today. The biggest live concert – Live Aid - was held in July 1985 as a fundraiser.

While everything was glitters and sparkles on the streets, hedonism in the '80s was questionable. Many drugs considered recreational in the '70s were soon noticed to be addictive and deadly to general well-being. The '80s also faced an epidemic that rocked the sexual revolution, namely AIDS – Acquired Immuno Deficiency Syndrome - and HIV – Human Immunodeficiency Virus.

This deadly disease was fast spreading primarily due to unprotected sex and sharing intravenous needles, as doing drugs and getting a tattoo was a fashion statement of the '80s. This decade marked the Anti-nuclear movement. The activists held rallies against the idea of a nuclear war between America and the Soviet Union.

Homelessness was a major economic crisis during this era as well. Men and women from different backgrounds started roaming in the streets, hungry and shabbily dressed. This was due to the rise in the cost of living, and the people couldn't keep up with it. In addition, the cold war came to an end during this decade.

A GLIMPSE OF INDIA :

In India, the '80s happened to be a dramatic decade that transformed the nation. The glorious nineties wouldn't have gotten to be glorious without the excruciating eighties. Poverty, unemployment, and inequality were still a problem in society. India was a developing country then too.

The seeds of economic liberalization were sown by Indira Gandhi in the 1980s. India saw the creation of its first homemade modern car- Maruti. We underrate the Eighties because it brings us horrific memories of the violent Khalistan movement, the anti-Sikh riots, and Indira's assassination in 1984. The 1980s weren't a total downer, as it has been made out to be. On the brighter side, there's no doubt that the decade offered a dizzying array of cinematic delights.

There was just one television channel—Doordarshan, and one radio channel – All India Radio, which played classical music and audio movies. Television was a shared asset in a neighbourhood. People would gather at a house to hear Indhira Gandhi's speech or watch a movie. Theatres premiered regional films. India evolved with the world at a steady pace.

Parents sat on the balcony as children sharpened their identification skills by counting cars and naming them from a distance. Kids didn't need PlayStation, PSPs, or fancy games to have a good time. Life was simple in the '80s. In today's world, everything happens with the easy push of a button. Life is easy now. So were the 1980s really all that bad? I would say it had its own hits and misses. We can either adapt to the fast-moving world or acclimate to some goodies from the '80s; either way, you do you in the ever-fleeting ephemeral called life.







Fashion In The 80s

By Faheema Jaffarin, 2nd year , B A (English). Madonna, Princess Diana, Demi Moore - these are just some of the many names that immediately come to our minds when we think of fashion in the '80s.

It was a decade that worshipped anything big and bright. Hence big hair, eye-catching fabric colours and patterns ruled the fashion runway. The '80s was also the first time in history when fashion trends became a thing, mainly influenced by the pop music industry.

Michael Jackson, without a doubt, was the King of Pop. His power jackets, military-style accessories, and Jheri curls are popular to date! However. If Michael Jackson was the King of Pop, then Madonna was the Queen of Pop. Her incredible physique and energy prompted youngsters to adopt her fashion style. She was immensely popular for her hairstyles, ranging from wild hair colours to velvet bows and scrunchies.

Designer jewellery was famous not only for beauty but as a symbol of wealth and power.

The 80s fashion can be divided into two halves. The first half of the decade was quieter than the second half, which went loud with colours, glitters and metals. In the early 80s, long hair, leather rocker jackets, cutoff denim jackets, worn-out jeans, and high trainers were trendy.

Almost every teenager wore badges with logos of their favourite metal bands and musicians. However, by the late '80s, the metal trends slowly transitioned into more bright, colourful, and theatrical clothing similar to the glam rock look of the '70s that mainly consisted of platform boots, leg warmers, and many different types of spiked or studded leather accessories.

Acid washing was also a process in the clothing industry that was introduced in the '80s. It is the process of chemically bleaching the denim, breaking down the material's fibre, and forcing the dye to fade, thus leaving undertones of the original dye evidenced by pale white streaks or spots on the material.





Funnily enough, the '80s was also popularly known as the decade where many of the fashion trends that people loved to hate were created.

Bold and outrageous makeup became a thing in the '80s to the point that wearing bold makeup was essential if you wanted to be fashionable; surprisingly, it was also the case for men. Boy George, Adam and The Ants, and the New Romantics made it cool for men to wear eyeliner and lipstick. However, when it came to women's beauty, mixing bold and colourful eye shadows, heavy lipstick and liberal amounts of eyeliner were considered to be fashionable.

Workout fashion paved the way during the '80s. Fit looks for women included neon-coloured plain or pastel leg warmers. Mini skirts were also popular.

The '80s will be remembered for their extravaganza. It was all about having materialistic values and flaunting one's wealth. Indulging in a fashion meant spending the extra money, even burning your pocket to appear fashionable.



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Sarah Fathima , 3rd year CSE

CRES BROADCAST EVENTS OF 2021

OVER SONGS TAKEN BY STORM ON SOCIAL MEDIA BY CRESCENT MUSIC



In November, the members of the Crescent Music Club took to social media platforms with cover songs that they produced. The latest one, "Astronaut in the Ocean", is a hiphop rap sung by Priyadarshan, with music programmed, arranged and mixed by Joseph, cinematography by Kishore Surendran, and edited by both Joseph and Kishore.

ROTARACT CLUB'S CHARITY OF GOODNESS 3.0

The Rotaract Club of Crescent, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Madras Mount, joined hands with the Rotaract Club of Ambarnath for the project, which included 104 other clubs. The main motive of this project was to donate sanitary napkins to underprivileged children and women. This project took place on 12th September 2021 in a slum near Udhayam Theatre.

The club created awareness about this project among fellow rotaractors by sharing posters through social media and collecting a sum of Rs.2000 to buy sanitary napkins. A lot of 40 sanitary napkins were purchased and donated to women and girls residing near Udhayam Theatre, KK Nagar. A short awareness programme was conducted before donating the napkins to highlight the importance of their usage.

CRESCENT SILAMBAM CLUB SHOWCASES THEIR TALENT AT VARIOUS EVENTS



Eight Silambam club members– Arshad, Evanglvin, Charan, Kanaga, Thirusha, Lavanya, Suriya, and Akeela participated and showcased their talent in the Assist World record. Furthermore, Arshad, Ramya, Suriya and Vignesh performed a special performance during the Independence Day event conducted by the institute. In addition to this, Arshad got selected for the pro-Silambam league.

AN EDUCATIONAL TOUR TO ATAL BY THE DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL ENGINEERING



Department of Civil Engineering, School of Infrastructure organised an educational tour to ATAL Tunnel, sponsored by AICTE under the YUVAK scheme, from 23.09.2021 to 02.10.2021. Ten M.Tech. students visited the tunnel, accompanied by two faculty members. Atal Tunnel, also known as Rohtang Tunnel, is a highway tunnel built under the Rohtang Pass in the eastern range of the Himalayas on the Manali Highway in Himachal Pradesh, India. At a length of 9.02 km, it is the longest tunnel above 10,000 feet (3,048 m) in the world.

THE DEPARTMENT OF CIVIL ENGINEERING HOLDS CRESWIZARD 2021

The Department of Civil Engineering, School of Infrastructure organized CRESWIZARD 2021 – National Level Science Quiz Contest exclusively for school students from IX to XII grade on 08.05.2021 from 11 a.m. to 12 noon. Around 35 students participated in the contest. Winners were awarded cash prizes and certificates.

OROTARACT CLUB HOSTS A CAMPUS-WIDE VACCINATION DRIVE

The Rotaract Club of Crescent, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Madras Mount, supported the Greater Chennai Corporation on successfully completing the first Mega Vaccination drive. The drive was held on 12th September 2021 from 7 AM to 4 PM. The Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu announced the Mega Vaccination Drive on 12th September 2021, which targeted the vaccination of 25 lakhs plus people on the same day all over Tamil Nadu. The target for Chennai was the vaccination of 3 lakhs people.

Ten rotaractors volunteered from our college for the vaccination drive. Vaccination camps were set up at five different locations to which five pairs of rotaractors were assigned to collect the count of vaccinated people at equal time intervals. The volunteers recorded the data of more than 1800 people getting vaccinated with their 1st and 2nd doses.

CRES BROADCAST EVENTS OF 2021

CRESCENT LITERARY SOCIETY CONDUCTS ITS ANNUAL ORIENTATION PROGRAM



Just like every year, after the freshers have joined the college and settled in, the Crescent Literary Society conducted an orientation program for freshers of all departments. The orientation program is an opportunity for freshers to learn more about the Society and its senior members to give them a thorough introduction to the club, its activities and the various advantages of being part of the Crescent Literary Society. This year's orientation programme was conducted online – via Zoom – on 21st September 2021, from 10.00 AM to 12.00 PM.

Sujan Ganesh (President, Crescent Literary Society) flagged the event off by giving a short introduction about the club, followed by an illustration of the four sub-clubs, namely the Writers Guild, Improv Theatre, House of Debaters, and Quizzers' Circuit. Each sub-club planned out fun events/activities in which numerous students enthusiastically volunteered and participated.

CRESCENT LITERARY SOCIETY CONDUCTS A FAMILY FEUD SHOWDOWN



CLS Family Feud was a friendly contest organised and hosted by Fadhl ur Rahman and Babu Izhan on the 27th of November through Zoom. Participants were split into two teams of 8 each, led by Irum Fathima and Mohammad Shoukath. Team "Shawarma" led by Irum Fathima won three out of a total of four rounds, thereby bagging the winners' title with 263 points. All the participants had a fun night engaging in the showdown.

CRESCENT LITERARY SOCIETY HOSTS A WRITER'S RODEO EVENING WITH ITS MEMBERS

Writer's rodeo, conducted on 15th November 2021, is an intra club event that aims to enhance writing skills and brings fresh perspectives to the limelight. Seven participants put their best foot forward and shared their thoughts through their poems, based on the prompt given a few days before the event. The best entries were chosen based on delivery, relevance to the given prompt and concept. Faheema Jaffarin, Rishika and Anna Catherine bagged the titles for the day.



THE DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTER SCIENCE ENGINEERING HOSTS INTELLECT 2K21

Intellect 2k21 was all about conducting International online Covid-19 Awareness events with the slight brush of technology. Students participated from their place of comfort, that is, 'Staying Home and Staying Safe!'

The main motive was to fight the effects of Quarantine from getting the best of people. Intellect 2k21 was all about conducting International online Covid-19 Awareness events with the slight brush of technology. Students participated from their place of comfort, that is, 'Staying Home and Staying Safe!'



The main motive was to fight the effects of Quarantine from getting the best of people.

The event had a cumulative of 650 registrations from India, Malaysia, Singapore, UAE, and Sri Lanka. A total of 11 events were organized successfully.

A team of faculty and 40+ students worked to conduct the event successfully. The Vice-Chancellor, Registrar and Additional Registrar graced the virtual inaugural function on 24th May 2021. The participants were allowed to submit their entries until 15th July 2021.



On the occasion of Diwali, Crescent Voice Channel posted a light-hearted Diwali video on Instagram. The vocalist behind the video was VJ Anna Catherine.

UJ Cathy @anna_...cathy

Happy Diwali

Crescent Literary Society

WINNERS 2021-22

PARTICIPANT NAME	HOST NAME	EVENT	POSITION
Mohamed Aman (3rd year , ECE)	REC BSACIST Air India	Lockdown fete Extempore (Improv) Civilian Pro (Oratory) Debate	Second First First
Fadhl ur Rahman (3rd year , ECE)	Air India	Debate	First
Naqiya Tabassum (2nd year , CSE)	BSACIST	Civilian Pro (Poetry Slam)	First
Pavan Sai (2nd year , Biotech)	Air India	Debate	First
Sujan Ganesh (5th year , Law)	BSACIST	Pen Down (Essay)	Second
Abishek Shankar (3rd year , EEE)	BSACIST	DEBioinfoATE	Second

Matrix Answer Key

TASK ICON MADE EARN

Ideated by Fadhl ur Rahman & Mohamed Aman 3rd year , ECE

ISTD-C



Deeraj President Abdul Rauf Vice President Mohamed Yousuf Cultural Secretary Wasim Akram Cultural Secretary & Discipline Committee Sumaiya Tabassum S Executive Manager & Discipline Committee Faizal Ahmed Public Relations Officer Gautam Treasurer **Rahul** Creative Head Nivedha K Crescent Art Club Head Varsha Albert Crescent Art Club Head Kousik K Crescent Club of Photographers Head Nachiappan Crescent Club of Photographers Head Sakthi S Crescent Dance Club Head Irfan Khan Crescent Dance Club Head M Farhan Sharief Crescent Fashion Team Head R Faraz Abdullah Crescent Fashion Team Co-Head Sujan Ganesh Crescent Literary Society Head Monish Kumar S Crescent Media Club Head Joseph Crescent Music Team Head Privadarshan Crescent Music Team Head **Crescent Philately Club Founder & Head** Ahmed Shahal Nasira Almas Crescent Philately Club Co-Head Syed Mohammed Arshad S Crescent Silambam Club Head Crescent Silambam Club Co-Head Ramya Shrinivas Razik Crescent Team Dramatix Head R Pavithra Crescent Team Dramatix Head Ajmal Mohamed Crescent Voice Club Head



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Under the guidance of Dr. Karthikeyan Ramalingam (Dean of Student Affairs) and Dr. P. Rathna (Staff Coordinator of Crescent Literary Society – department of English)

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